
**SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PROTECTING A TITLE KEY
OF A SECURE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM FOR
RECORDABLE MEDIA CONTENT**

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A title key protection system includes a title key with recordable media content; storage in a repository is not required. The title key is decrypted when needed by a clearinghouse, and then re-encrypted. The title key confers rights from the content owners to the user to play and copy the content for personal use. A user downloads encrypted content from a content repository. The user's media recording device extracts an encrypted title key from the content and obtains a media key block and media ID from the physical media on which the content will be recorded. The encrypted title key, media key block, and media ID are transmitted to a clearinghouse. The clearinghouse decrypts the title key and derives a media unique key from the media key block and media ID. The clearinghouse re-encrypts the title key with the media unique key and returns this re-encrypted title key to the media recording device for recording with the content on the physical media.